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Viewing cable 07NEWDELHI1218, SCENESETTER FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SECRETARY SAMUEL W. BODMAN'S MARCH 2007 VISIT TO INDIA

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#07NEWDELHI1218**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
07NEWDELHI1218	2007-03-13 13:28	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy New Delhi

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/article1597302.ece>

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VZCZCXRO3817
OO RUEHBI RUEHCI
DE RUEHNE #1218/01 0721328
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 131328Z MAR 07
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3842
INFO RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI IMMEDIATE 8513
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 9009
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 9352
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 9116
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 9221
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 2413
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 9821

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 NEW DELHI 001218
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SIPDIS

SIPDIS

FOR SECRETARY SAMUEL BODMAN FROM CHARGE PYATT

E.O. 12958: DECL 03/9/2017

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [TRGY](#) [EPET](#) [EALD](#) [SENV](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [IN](#)

SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SECRETARY SAMUEL W. BODMAN'S MARCH 2007 VISIT TO INDIA

Classified by CDA GEOFFREY PYATT FOR reasons 1.4 (b, d)

[1](#)1. (C) SUMMARY: Secretary Bodman, the members of the Country Team warmly welcome you to New Delhi and Mumbai and look forward to your arrival

[1](#)2. (C) Your scheduled meetings in Mumbai with Department of Atomic Energy Secretary Dr. Anil Kakodkar and in New Delhi with Special Envoy Shya

[1](#)3. (SBU) Your meeting with Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Ahluwalia provides an opportunity to review India's Integrated Energy Policy ar

CIVIL NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS

[1](#)4. (C) Despite a lull in the domestic debate over the U.S.-India civil nuclear cooperation initiative, the nuclear deal still commands high-pr

[1](#)5. (C) The right for India to reprocess U.S.-origin spent fuel remains the most contentious issue in the 123 talks. The nuclear scientists al

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Shyam Saran, the Indian government has made some progress in tempering the concerns of traditionally nonproliferation-minded countries like Ir

INTERNAL POLITICS UNDERSCORE VULNERABILITIES

[1](#)6. (C) The politics around India's energy policy reflects a struggle between needed economic reform and political impediments to change. Prime

[1](#)7. (C) The ruling coalition remains dependent on the Communists and other left wing members of parliament to stay in power. Following a strir

[1](#)8. (C) What seems clear in the aftermath of recent polls is that the reform cadre of Manmohan Singh, Montek Singh Ahluwalia, and Finance Minis

U.S.-INDIA ENERGY DIALOGUE AND INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT

[1](#)9. (SBU) Building on the momentum of President Bush's return visit to India in March 2006, the President's signing of the Henry J. Hyde U.S.-I

[1](#)10. (SBU) USDOE Under Secretary David Garman co-chaired the Energy Dialogue's Steering Committee meeting in New Delhi during his visit Februar

[1](#)11. (SBU) In addition to India joining the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project, key activities and agreements reac

-- India joining the FutureGen clean-coal power project;

-- MOU on a Coal Bed Methane and Coal Mine Methane Information Clearing House;

-- MOU on safety between the Minerals Management Services and India's Oil Industry Safety Directorate;

-- DOE/EIA Information Sharing Agreement with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas;

-- Agreement for USTDA Gas Grid Feasibility Study;

-- Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum and APP-6 projects for clean and safe coal development;

-- Energy Efficiency and Green Buildings Cooperation;

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-- Natural Gas Conference and cooperation on India's new oil and gas regulatory frameworks;

-- International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy (IPHE);

-- Renewable Energy cooperation on wind and solar resource mapping;

-- Offshore Exploration for Natural Gas Hydrates; and

-- Orientation Visit for Petroleum Refining.

INDIA'S ENERGY SCENE

¶12. (SBU) ENERGY NEEDED FOR GDP GROWTH: For India to achieve its goals of sustained rapid annual GDP growth of 8%-9% through 2032, alleviating
MEETING WITH OIL AND GAS MINISTER DEORA

¶13. (C) MPNG Minister Murli Deora has close ties to Sonia Gandhi and the Congress Party's inner circle, and his own strong political base in M

¶14. (SBU) U.S. oil and gas companies interested in India have been concerned about:
-- the lack of a level playing field in bidding for petroleum exploration blocks, including the GOI not enforcing work programs;
-- the new Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)'s lack of sufficient independence from the GOI and MPNG;
-- price controls on petroleum projects, natural gas, and electricity acting as a disincentive to marketing; and
-- the GOI's delay in paying \$100 million owed to McDermott after the Supreme Court's final ruling in October 2006.

¶15. (SBU) Secretary Srinivasan, as co-chair of the Energy Dialogue's Oil and Gas Working Group, would like to see deeper bilateral cooperation
-- CMB/CMM exploration and production;
-- natural gas hydrates;
-- oil & gas regulatory information exchanges between FERC and PNGRB;
-- in situ coal gasification;
-- petroleum refinery enhanced production;
-- hydrogen economy; and
-- world oil and gas outlook.

MEETING WITH MINISTER OF POWER SHINDE

¶16. (SBU) Power Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde -- a key figure on clean coal technology and carbon emissions -- will update you on India's ambitious
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new capacity during 2007-2012 -- almost twice its past volume of annual expansion. Controlled prices to residential consumers, theft, non-pay

¶17. (SBU) Shinde will discuss plans to build seven "Ultra-Mega Power Projects," each of 4,000-Megawatts based on super-critical technology and
USAID and SARI: KEY ENERGY DIALOGUE PROGRAMS FACE CUTS

¶18. (SBU) You will address USAID's South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy (SARI/Energy)'s Conference on "Investment Opportunities in South

¶19. (SBU) USAID is playing a leadership role in the U.S.-India Energy Dialogue -- particularly the Power and Energy Efficiency Working Group,
PYATT